

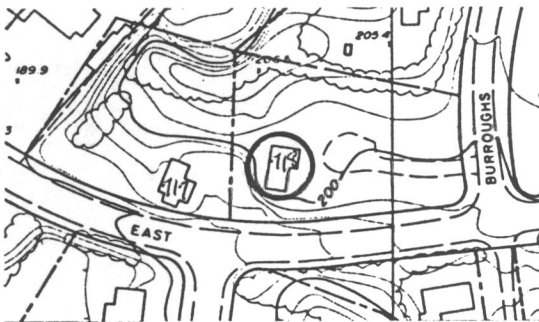
FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



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Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

0062000025

Boston N.

718

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 172 East St.

Historic Name Bailey Brothers House

Uses: Present Multi-Family Residential

Original Multi-Family Residential

Date of Construction 1889

Source Lexington Valuation lists

Style/Form Queen Anne (altered)

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Fieldstone/Concrete Block

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

Major Alterations (with dates)

Renovated (1984)

Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 0.8 A.

Setting On a rise above a busy street in a neighborhood of predominantly 20th-century houses

Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) March 1998

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

172 East St. was originally a Queen Anne with the same configuration as the present house but has lost all of its original finishes. The original house was rectangular with a side ell, two stories, two-by-five bays, and front-gabled with a side chimney in the main block and a ridge chimney in the gabled ell. The house is now set on a fieldstone and concrete block foundation, clad with wood clapboards, and roofed with asphalt shingles. The main entry has been moved from the original facade to the south corner of the east elevation, just as the entry at 151 East St. (MHC #716) has been relocated, and the door surround, with its dentil course, fluted pilasters, and sidelights, is a recent replacement. An enclosed entry in the ell has a similar surround, and oriel windows have also recently been added on the south and east gable ends of the main block and ell. Other windows are 6/6 double hung sash.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This house was built in 1889 by Edward C. and George H. Bailey on part of a four-acre parcel they had purchased from their uncle Edward B. Bailey in 1884. The Baileys, who were house painters, lived in the house already on the parcel—the house now at 168 East St. (MHC #717)—until they built this one. This house may have been occasioned by George's marriage in 1888, for the house was reportedly designed as two identical domiciles. Historical photographs show that it was originally a front-gabled, L-shaped Queen Anne with a full-width porch. Built on a slope, it was originally three stories high on the west (down slope) side, and had a fieldstone foundation on only the east and back sides (the foundation on the front and west sides was of wood). In 1901 the older house next door was renovated and repaired after having been damaged by a falling branch; the Baileys then moved back to live in that house and presumably rented this one. This house was completely renovated in 1984; at that time the original foundations were replaced with the present one of concrete blocks, a berm was built up against the west side so that it is now only two stories high, the main entry was moved around to the side, and oriel windows were installed on the south and east gable ends.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Guy and Elaine Doran, personal communication 1998.
Lexington Valuation Lists. 1884–1892, 1900–1902, 1905.
Middlesex Registry of Deeds. Deeds. Cambridge, MA. 1686: 46.

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*